

Message Text

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43/12

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

SAJ-01 AID-20 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 TRSE-00 XMB-07

OPIC-12 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 AGR-20 NIC-01

RSR-01 /181 W

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R 141030 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0449

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

C O N F I D E N T I A L YAOUNDE 1250

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y F O R M R N 1250 V I C E 0449)

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EAID, CH, CM

SUBJECT: CHINA EXTENDS \$80 MILLION IN AID TO CAMEROON

REF: YAOUNDE 1015

1. PRESIDENT AHIDJO TOLD RADIO CAMEROON IN AN INTERVIEW ON HIS DEPARTURE FROM CHINA ON APRIL 9 THAT CHINA HAD EXTENDED 150 MILLION YUANS (ALSO SHOWN AS 18 BILLION CFA, APPROXIMATELY \$80 MILLION) FOR THE FINANCING OF PROJECTS TO BE DECIDED UPON IN DUE TIME. HE SAID THE ACTION WAS SIGNIFICANT IN THAT CREDIT CARRIED NO INTEREST AND WAS REPAYABLE OVER TEN YEARS AFTER A TEN- YEAR GRACE PERIOD. AHIDJO FURTHER QUALIFIED THE LOAN AS SIGNIFICANT IN SIZE, " CONSIDERING THE SHORT PERIOD" OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

2. THE DISCREPANCY BETWEEN THE FIGURE ABOVE AND THE FIGURE OF \$17 MILLION ANNOUNCED BY THE GOVERNMENT PRESS AGENCY ON MARCH 29 HAS NOT RECEIVED OFFICIAL COMMENT. THE LARGER FIGURE HOWEVER, HAS BEEN GIVEN MORE PROMINENCE AND IS
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ATTRIBUTED DIRECTLY TO AHIDJO.

3. NO DETAILS ARE YET AVAILABLE ON ANY GURC PLANS FOR USE OF CREDIT ALTHOUGH LADGO DAM AND BENUE IRRIGATION PROJECT ARE FREQUENTLY CITED AS LIKELY CANDIDATES.

4. TO EXTENT AT THIS EARLY DATE WE ABLE TO JUDGE CAMREPORT DRAFTED BY THE WESTERN EMISSARIES -- THE US AND DUTCH REPS -- THAT THE SOVIET PROPOSAL WAS THE BEST OUTCOME THAT COULD NOW BE OBTAINED. THE BRITISH REP, HOWEVER, INDICATED THAT HIS AUTHORITIES HAD SERIOUS RESERVATIONS ABOUT THE PACKAGE, ALTHOUGH HE ALSO SAID THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD RESERVE JUDGMENT UNTIL THE EMISSARIES' REPORT WAS DELIVERED TO THE NAC AND THE OTHER ALLIES HAD EXPRESSED THEIR VIEWS. THE BELGIAN AND TURKISH REPS SUGGESTED CONCERNS MORE MINOR THAN THOSE OF THE UK. THE REPORT OF THE EMISSARIES, RECOMMENDING ACCEPTANCE OF THE SOVIET PROPOSAL, WAS TRANSMITTED TO THE NAC ON 13 APRIL. MEANWHILE, APPARENT SOVIET UNWILLINGNESS TO DISCUSS THE AGENDA, EVEN INFORMALLY, UNTIL THE PARTICIPATION PROBLEM IS RESOLVED, SUGGESTS LITTLE POSSIBILITY FOR PROGRESS IN VIENNA UNTIL THE NAC ACTS. END SUMMARY.

2. EMERGENCE OF SOVIET PROPOSAL. ON 7 APRIL THE SOVIET, US, AND DUTCH REPS MET INFORMALLY TO DISCUSS THE HUNGARIAN PROBLEM. THE MEETING WAS REQUESTED INTENTIONALLY BY THE SOVIETS AT A TIME WHEN THE HUNGARIAN REPS WOULD BE OUT OF TOWN. THE SOVIETS MAY HAVE BEEN RELUCTANT TO PUT FORWARD A COMPROMISE SOLUTION IN THE PRESENCE OF ONE OF THEIR OWN ALLIES. DURING THE SESSION, THE ALLIED EMISSARIES OFFERED THE SOVIETS TWO BASIC APPROACHES TO PUTTING THE HUNGARIAN PROBLEM IN ABEYANCE. ONE WOULD BE TO INCLUDE IN AN ENLARGEMENT FORMULA LANGUAGE EFFECTIVELY PUTTING IN ABEYANCE THE STATUS OF ALL CENTRAL EUROPEAN COUNTRIES EXCEPT THOSE 11 SPECIFIED IN THE PROCEDURES PAPER AS DIRECT PARTICIPANTS. SUCH AN APPROACH WOULD NOT HAVE SPECIFIED HUNGARY AND WOULD HAVE LIMITED THE ENLARGEMENT CONCEPT TO THE CENTRAL EUROPEAN REGION -- THUS BEING QUITE ACCEPTABLE TO THE NATO FLANK STATES. A SECOND APPROACH WOULD BE TO REFLECT THE ABEYANCE OF HUNGARY IN COMPLEMENTARY WESTERN AND EASTERN UNILATERAL STATEMENTS.

3. THE SOVIETS SEIZED ON THE UNILATERAL STATEMENT APPROACH
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AS THE BASIS FOR DISCUSSION. THE SOVIET REPS IN VIENNA HAD SLOWLY BEEN MOVING TOWARD ACCEPTANCE OF THE CONCEPT OF UNILATERAL STATEMENTS AND THEY VIEWED SUCH AN APPROACH AS ADVANTAGEOUS BECAUSE IT WOULD PERMIT THEM TO INDICATE MORE CLEARLY THE EASTERN POSITION ON THE HUNGARIAN QUESTION THAN WOULD AN ENLARGEMENT FORMULA SPECIFICALLY REFLECTING HUNGARIAN ABEYANCE.

4. DURING THE 7 APRIL SESSION, THE SOVIET REPS UNFOLDED THEIR PROPOSAL AFTER EXTENSIVE PRODDING BY THE WESTERN EMISSARIES AND LENGTHY WRANGLING OVER EASTERN AND WESTERN DRAFTING PREFERENCES. THE WESTERN EMISSARIES TOLD THE SOVIETS THAT THE PROPOSAL WAS NOT ACCEPTABLE FOR A NUMBER OF REASONS, MOST IMPORTANTLY BECAUSE IT REQUIRED THAT HUNGARY BE RECORDED AS A SPECIAL PARTICIPANT. THEY NONETHELESS AGREED TO REPORT THE PROPOSAL BACK TO THE ALLIES, AND FROM NOTES TAKEN DURING THE SESSION, THEY CONSTRUCTED A SOVIET TEXT.

5. THE SOVIET PROPOSAL INCORPORATED THE FOLLOWING ESSENTIAL FEATURES: (A) THE LISTING OF HUNGARY AS A SPECIAL PARTICIPANT; (W) AN ENLARGEMENT FORMULA THAT LINKS THE NEGOTIATIONS AND DECISIONS TO CENTRAL EUROPE BUT -- IN SPITE OF REPEATED URGING BY THE WESTERN EMISSARIES -- DOES NOT LIMIT ENLARGEMENT TO THE CATEGORY OF STATES WITH FORCES OR TERRITORY IN CENTRAL EUROPE. SUCH ADDITIONAS, HOWEVER, WOULD BE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE STATE TO BE INCLUDED AND APPROVED BY A CONSENSUS OF THE DIRECT PARTICIPANTS; AND (C) DRAFTS OF POSSIBLE UNILATERAL STATEMENTS. THE WESTERN STATEMENT WOULD RECORD THE WESTERN VIEW THAT " THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE PARTICIPATION OF HUNGARY IN THESE CONSULTATIONS ARE WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO THE NATURE OF HUN
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